

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 7356

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ECE, CSCE, ENRG

SUBJECT: ECE - COAL COMMITTEE: CONSIDERATION OF SOVIET
PROPOSAL FOR CONGRESSES ON ENVIRONMENT, TRANSPORT
AND ENERGY (ECE DECISION B(XXXI))

REF: STATE 210010

1. SUMMARY: AT ECE COAL COMMITTEE MEETING SEPTEMBER 20
ENERGY DIVISION DIRECTOR JANSSENS WENT BEYOND TERMS OF
ECE DECISION B (XXXI) BY SUGGESTING THAT COAL COMMITTEE
ASSIST IN DEFINING TOPICS WHICH MIGHT BE CONSIDERED AT
SOVIET-PROPOSED ALL-EUROPEAN CONGRESS ON ENERGY SHOULD
SUCH CONGRESS BE HELD. ADMONISHED BY WESTERN REPS.,
JANSSENS IN MEETING MAINTAINED HIS INTERPRETATION OF DECISION
AND IN CORRIDOR ADVISED THAT HE UNDER INSTRUCTIONS TO TAKE
THIS LINE TO HEAD OF EASTERN PROPOSALS THAT COMMITTEE PROPOSE
AGENDA ITEMS FOR ENERGY CONGRESS. ENVIRONMENT DIVISION
DIRECTOR BISHOP SAYS HE NOT UNDER SUCH INSTRUCTIONS WITH
REGARD TO WATER COMMITTEE MEETING OPENING SEPTEMBER 27.

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MISSION WILL RAISE MATTER WITH STANOVNIK UPON HIS RETURN TO

GENEVA. END SUMMARY.

2. AT OPENING SESSION OF ECE COAL COMMITTEE
SEPTEMBER 20, ECE ENERGY DIVISION DIRECTOR JANSSENS
INTRODUCED AGENDA ITEM 3, MATTERS ARISING OUT OF
31ST SESSION OF ECE. WITH REFERENCE TO DECISION B (XXXI)
ON SOVIET PROPOSAL FOR HOLDING OF ALL-EUROPEAN CONGRESS ON
QUESTIONS OF COOPERATION IN FIELDS OF PROTECTION
OF THE ENVIRONMENT, DEVELOPMENT OF TRANSPORT, AND
ENERGY, JANSSENS REVIEWED CONTENTS OF PARAS. 10 AND 11
OF ECE DOCUMENT COAL/R.23. THIS SECTION DRAWS COMMITTEE'S
ATTENTION TO DECISION B (XXXI) AND SPECIFICALLY TO SOVIET
SUGGESTIONS CONCERNING PROBLEMS WHICH MIGHT BE
DEALT WITH AT PROPOSED ENERGY CONGRESS, NOTES THAT
CERTAIN SPECIFIED PROJECTS IN COMMITTEE'S DRAFT PROGRAM
OF WORK (COAL/R.25) SEEM TO RELATE CLOSELY TO
AFORESAID SUGGESTIONS, AND SUGGESTS THAT COMMITTEE MAY
WISH TO EXPLORE FURTHER OPPORTUNITY FOR DEVELOPING CLOSE
ECONOMIC AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION THROUGH GENERAL EXCHANGE
OF VIEWS UNDER AGENDA ITEM 3 AND MORE DETAILED CONSIDERATION
OF DECISION B (XXXI) UNDER OTHER LISTED AGENDA ITEMS.
JANSSENS THEN SUGGESTED THAT COAL COMMITTEE MIGHT ASSIST
IN DEFINING TOPICS WHICH MIGHT BE CONSIDERED AT PROPOSED
ENERGY CONGRESS.

3. JANSSENS ALSO REPORTED ON ECE DECISION D (XXXI) RE
SELECTED TOPICS FOR SPECIAL ATTENTION AND NOTED THAT FIRST
TWO TOPICS WERE PARTICULARLY RELATED TO WORK OF COAL
COMMITTEE. THIRD TOPIC WAS ALSO RELATED BUT ACTIVITY
WAS ALREADY UNDER WAY IN OTHER ECE BODIES.

4. US DEL INTERVENED WITH STATEMENT ALONG LINES SET
FORTH IN PARA 2 REFTL, ADDING THAT DECISION B (XXXI)
HAD ASKED ECE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY TO BRING TOPICS
SUGGESTED FOR DISCUSSION AT PROPOSED CONGRESSES TO
ATTENTION OF RELEVANT ECE COMMITTEES BUT HAD NOT ASKED
THAT COMMITTEES ASSIST IN DEFINING TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION
AT ANY SUCH CONGRESSES.

5. JANSSENS REPLIED THAT POLITICAL DECISION ON WHETHER
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TO HOLD SUGGESTED CONGRESSES WAS NOT BEFORE COAL COMMITTEE
TUT EXECUTIVE SECRETARY HAD BEEN ASKED BY COMMISSION
TO EXPLORE WHAT TOPICS MIGHT BE DISCUSSED AT PROPOSED
CONGRESSES AND INPUT FROM RELEVANT COMMITTEES WOULD BE
HELPFUL.

6. HUNGARY THEN PROPOSED THAT COAL COMMITTEE AID IN
PREPARATION FOR A CONGRESS ON ENERGY BY SUGGESTING TOPICS

FOR CONSIDERATION. JANSSENS REPLIED THAT WHAT HE INTENDED WAS THAT THE COMMITTEE MEMBERS SHOULD KEEP DECISION B (XXXI) IN MIND AND, AS CONSIDERATION OF WORK PROGRESSED AND IDEAS OCCURRED TO THEM, HELP TO DEFINE WHAT TOPICS MIGHT BE CONSIDERED IF SUCH CONGRESSES WERE TO BE HELD.

7. ONLY OTHER SPEAKER ON ITEM WAS ROMANIA, WHICH POINTED TO LINK BETWEEN PROPOSED ENERGY CONGRESS AND SECOND AD HOC MEETING ON ENERGY EFFICIENCY (WHICH JANSSENS REPORTED INFORMALLY WAS LIKELY TO BE HELD BEFORE 32ND SESSION OF ECE). WESTERN EUROPEAN REPS FELT DISPUTE SHOULD BE PURSUED WITH SECRETARIAT RATHER THAN EXPANDING FURTHER IN COMMITTEE.

8. IN SUBSEQUENT DISCUSSION AFTERNOON SEPTEMBER 20 ON COAL SITUATION IN ECE REGION IN 1975 AND ITS PROSPECTS (AGENDA ITEM 5(A), UKRANIAN SSR PROPOSED TO DRAW ATTENTION TO SOVIET PROPOSAL FOR CONGRESSES, ROMANIA INQUIRED WHETHER THIS WOULD BE ACTION BY COMMITTEE AS A WHILE, AND SECRETARIAT REP (BRENDOW) STATED IN CLARIFICATION OF UNCLEAR ANSWER BY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN SCHEID (FRG) THAT ALL SUCH PROPOSALS WOULD BE INCLUDED IN REPORT AS OPINION OF DELS MAKING STATEMENTS.

9. ADMONISHED TO CORRIDORS FOLLOWING MORNING MEETING BY WESTERN REPS INCLUDING US MISSION OFFICER FOR GOING BEYOND TERMS OF DECISION B (XXXI), JANSSENS RESPONDED THAT HE UNDER INSTRUCTIONS TO GIVE DECISION INTERPRETATION HE DID AND THAT INTENT WAS TO HEAD OFF THREATENED EASTERN STATEMENTS ON PROPOSED ENERGY CONGRESS INCLUDING PROPOSALS THAT COMMITTEE ASSIST IN DRAWING UP AGENDA. JANSSENS IMPLIED THAT THIS WAS DECISION TAKEN BY EXECUTIVE
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SECRETARY STANOVNIK AFTER STRONG PRESSURE FROM SOVIETS TO BE EVEN MORE FORTHCOMING. WESTERN REPS POINTED OUT THAT BUSINESS OF SECRETARIAT WAS TO REPORT DECISION, NOT INTERPRET IT.

10. JANSSENS' STATEMENT WENT FAR BEYOND STATEMENT MADE BY STANOVNIK IN INTRODUCING SIMILAR ITEM AT HOUSING, BUILDING AND PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING SEPTEMBER 6. AT THAT TIME STANOVNIK MERELY BROUGHT MATTER TO COMMITTEE'S ATTENTION IN MANNER SET FORTH IN DECISION. ONLY INTERVENTION ON MATTER AT HBP SESSION WAS ONE-SENTENCE SOVIET STATEMENT EXPRESSING HOPE THAT COMMITTEE WOULD KEEP PROPOSAL IN MIND WHEN DRAWING UP LONG-TERM WORK PROGRAM. MOREOVER, ENVIRONMENT AND HUMAN SETTLEMENTS DIVISION DIRECTOR BISHOP HAS ADVISED

MISSION OFFICER THAT HE SURPRISED BY JANSSENS STATEMENT AND HAS NO INSTRUCTIONS TO GO BEYOND STATEMENT MADE AT HBP COMMITTEE WHEN ECE WATER COMMITTEE CONSIDERS MATTER SEPTEMBER 27.

11. STANOVNIK AND SENIOR ADVISER STILLMAN PRESENTLY ABSENT FROM GENEVA BUT MISSION WILL TAKE EARLIEST OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS MATTER WITH THEM UPON THEIR RETURN.

12. IN PREPARATION FOR FORTHCOMING MEETINGS OF WATER COMMITTEE AND OTHER ECE PRINCIPAL SUBSIDIARY BODIES, DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO REVIEW PARAS 12-15 OF ECE DOCUMENT WATER/R.38, (WHICH PARALLELS PARAS IN COAL/R.25 CITED ABOVE) AND SIMILAR SECTIONS OF DOCUMENTS PREPARED FOR OTHER PSBS ON THIS STANDARD AGENDA ITEM (MATTERS ARISING FROM THE 31ST SESSION OF THE ECE). HBP COMMITTEE DOCUMENT HBP/R.57 CONTAINED NO SUCH SECTION.

13. MISSION HAS RECENTLY HEARD FROM SOVIET MISSION SOURCES THAT FURTHER STATEMENT FROM USSR SPECIFYING DETAILED TOPICS FOR CONSIDERATION AT CONGRESSES MAY BE EXPECTED IN NOVEMBER. CATTO

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